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**AUTOMATED FEET-GRIPPING SYSTEM**

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

[01] This application is a continuation-in-part (CIP) of U.S. patent application serial number 09/748,656, issued as U.S. patent number 6,623,346, which claims priority to four copending U.S. provisional applications all entitled, "Method of Mechanical Transferring Live Broilers from Moving Conveyor to Shackle," having serial numbers 60/171,990, filed December 23, 1999; 60/177,576, filed January 22, 2000; 60/197,362, filed April 15, 2000; and 60/252,987, filed November 23, 2000.

[02] This application also claims priority to U.S. provisional patent application entitled, "Automated Feet-Gripping System," having serial number 60/444,861, filed February 4, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

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